

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A device for holding a flexible hose, the device comprising: at least one holding area for an at least axial holding of the hose; and at least one one-sided support area surrounding the flexible hose and [extending] expanding from said holding area towards an [[free]] end of the flexible hose, ~~wherein the support area has a trumpet-shaped extension with an inner curved surface extending continuously and uniformly from a reduced outer diameter end, adjacent to said holding area, to an expanded outer diameter end towards the direction of the free end of the flexible hose~~ said flexible hose being non-rotatably fixed to the holding area and the holding area being rotatably connected to a holding part.

2. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 1, wherein the holding area has a substantially cylindrical outer surface and an inner surface comprising inwardly directed annular ribs, said inner curved surface having a decreasing radius of curvature from a location adjacent to said holding section to said expanded diameter end, said decreasing radius being one of progressively decreasing and comprising a first larger radius of curvature adjacent to said holding section followed by a second smaller radius of curvature adjacent to said expanded outer diameter end.

3. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 1, further comprising an application area for applying the device to [[a]] the holding part.

4. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 3, wherein the holding part is constructed as a fixing clamp or clip.

5. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 3, wherein the application section has an outer annular groove.

6. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 5, wherein an inwardly directed lug of the holding part engages in the annular groove.

7. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 1, further comprising a construction with at least two partial shells (halfshells).

8. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 7, wherein the partial shells are screwed together.

9. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 7, wherein the partial shells are interconnected by snap action devices.

10. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 7, wherein the partial shells are held together by a closing ring.

11. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 10, wherein the closing ring is constructed in one piece.

12. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 10, wherein the closing ring is formed by several partial rings.

13. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 12, wherein the partial rings of the closing ring are connectable by snap constructions by snapping in perpendicular to the axis of symmetry.

14. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 12, further comprising rigid, complimentary shapes, engaging behind in the closed position and located on end faces of the partial rings of the closing ring and axial connectability of the shapes and therefore the partial rings.

15. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 10, further comprising a cylindrical shoulder for the non-positive reception of the closing ring in a radial and circumferential direction.

16 - 22. (Canceled)

23. (New) A device according to claim 1, wherein a inner part radius of curvature (R1) of expansion of an inner part of the support area is of the same order of magnitude as a minimum bending radius of the flexible hose minus half the diameter of the flexible hose.

24. (New) A device according to claim 23, wherein a support area end radius of curvature (R2) of the support area is smaller than the inner part radius of curvature (R1) to provide an edgeless transition.

25. (New) A device according to claim 24, wherein the support area end radius of curvature (R2) is 10% to 20% of the inner part radius of curvature (R1).

26. (New) A flexible hose holding arrangement, comprising:

a flexible hose with a holdable outer surface;

a holding and support single element including a holding portion with a holding area for an axial holding of said holdable outer surface of said flexible hose to maintain the axial and rotational position of a held end of said flexible hose and a support portion having a trumpet-shape with a reduced outer diameter end, adjacent to said holding area, and an expanded outer diameter end, said support portion having an inner side support area surrounding the flexible hose and extending towards said expanded outer diameter end, wherein the support area has an accurate inner curved surface radially widening as it extends continuously and uniformly from said reduced outer diameter end to said expanded outer diameter end with a radius of said

inner curved surface having a progressively decreasing radius of curvature from a location adjacent to said holding section to said expanded diameter end; and

a holding part with a connection feature for rotational connection of said holding and support single element to said holding part.

27. (New) A flexible hose holding arrangement according to claim 26, wherein

the decreasing radius of curvature comprises a larger radius of curvature section adjacent to said holding section followed by a smaller radius of curvature section adjacent to said expanded outer diameter end; and

5           the holding area has a substantially cylindrical outer surface and an inner surface comprising inwardly directed annular ribs and said holdable outer surface is a ribbed hose surface cooperating with said annular ribs to rotationally and axially hold said free end at said holding area.